Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 MANAMA 00617 161508Z ACTION AID-31

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 EB-08 IO-13 ISO-00 OES-06 DLOS-06

-----170046Z 060798 /14

R 161300Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY MANAMA BAHRAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC 4375

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI UAE

AMEMBASSY ATHENS GREECE

USINT BAGHDAD IRAQ

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN SAUDI ARABIA

AMEMBASSY DOHA QATAR

AMEMBASSY JIDDA SAUDI ARABIA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT OMAN

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IRAN USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USDOC WASHINGTON DC

UNCLAS MANAMA 617

ATHENS FOR RTDO

AID/W FOR SER/CFS HUNTINGTON

USDOC FOR CAGNE/HALE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS : EAID, SENV, XF

SUBJECT: REGIONAL POLLUTION/ENVIRONMENT CONFERENCE

REFS : KUWAIT 1359 (NOTAL) AND PREVIOUS

1. ACCORDING TO THE UNEP OFFICER WHO HAS WORKING RESPONSIBILITY FOR BOTH THE PROPOSED CONFERENCES (JUNE AND OCTOBER), TENTATIVE PLANS ARE AS FOLLOWS. JUNE 6-16 WILL SEE A MEETING UNCLASSIFIED

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OF BOTH LEGAL AND TECHNICAL EXPERTS (REF MANAMA 352) FROM ALL PARTICIPATING STATES (WHICH INCLUDES ALL THE LITTORALS OF PERSIAN GULF). ABU DHABI HAD BEEN APPROACHED TO HOST CONFERENCE BUT HAS DECLINED; UNEP IS NOW APPROACHING BAHRAIN TO ACT AGAIN AS HOST TO CONFERENCE AND EXPECTS FAVORABLE RESPONSE.

2. ASSUMING SUCCESSFUL JUNE AGREEMENT, MINISTERS WILL BE

CONVOKED IN OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 1977 TO SIGN FORMAL DOCUMENT WHICH WILL ESTABLISH PROCEDURES AND REGULATIONS DESIGNED "TO PROTECT THE GULF" FROM POLLUTION. AS FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF AGREEMENT, IT WILL DEPEND ON SEPARATE ACTIONS OF EACH SIGNATORY ALTHOUGH UNEP IS HOPEFUL, AND HAS TRIED TO INCLUDE IN DRAFT, THAT STATES WILL AGREE TO SET UP A "COORDINATING COMMITTEE" TO OVERSEE IMPLEMENTATION. GENERAL DRAFT OUTLINE AS IT PRESENTLY EXISTS IS BASED ON UNEP/IMCO MODEL MEDITER-RANEAN STATES RECENTLY SIGNED.

3. POLITICO-LINGUISTIC NOTE: UNEP THINKS IT HAS MANAGED TO AVOID TERMINOLOGICAL CONTROVERSY OVER NAME OF BODY OF WATER VARIOUSLY REFERRED TO AS PERSIAN OF ARABIAN GULF, WHICH CONTROVERSY REGULARLY DERAILS REGIONAL COOPERATION BEFORE IT BEGINS, BY SIMPLE STRATEGEM. IN THE DRAFT DOCUMENT THE BODY IS REFERRED TO ONLY AS "THE SEA WHICH IS SURROUNDED BY"..." AND THEN LISTS ALL THE LITTORALS. THE WORD "GULF" WHETHER OF PERSIAN OR ARABIAN ANTECEDENTS HAS BEEN DROPPED. CLUVERIUS

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Message Attributes

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Subject: REGIONAL POLLUTION/ENVIRONMENT CONFERENCE

TAGS: EAID, SENV, XF

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